

KNIGHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956.





KNIGHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR
1956.

Councillor	J.G. Pryce,	J.P.	<u>Chairman.</u>
"	Jno. Morris.		<u>Vice-Chairman.</u>
"	Mrs. G.M. Walker,	J.P.	
"	B.T. Harris,	J.P.,	
"	Rd. Brick,	C.C.	
"	E.C.M. Nicholls.		
"	J.P. Knill.		
"	J.A. Griffiths.		
"	K.H. Morris.		
"	H.L. Vaughan.		
"	J.W. Morris.		
"	A.E. Morris.		
"	E.W. Powell.		
"	Geo. Gayther.		
"	V.W. Pugh.		
"	Rd. Hughes.		
"	J.I. Hargest.		
"	W.E.J. Watson.		
"	T.H. Lewis.		
"	Rd. Watkins.		

Clerk - J.A. Jones, F.C.C.S., A.I.A.C.

Medical Officer of Health - J.G. Garman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Public Health Inspector/Surveyor - D.I. Davies, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
M.R.I.P.H.H.

KNIGHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health,
for the year ended 31st December, 1956.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Knighton Rural District Council.

June 1957.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Walker and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to submit my thirteenth Annual Report upon the vital statistics, sanitary conditions and general health in the Rural District of Knighton.

In submitting my report I shall endeavour to include in addition to the required statistics and particulars of infectious diseases, an account of sanitation in the area under my control.

This year we have again seen a considerable amount of improvement work carried out to the various dwellings within our area, although only two applications for improvement grants were received and approved under the Housing Acts 1949-54. Perhaps the high cost of building accounts for this, especially that owners have to bear the whole cost of repair before applying for financial aid to modernise and improve their houses. Many houses that are now substandard could be brought up to Housing Act standards at reasonable expense, and every encouragement should be given to applicants when ^{such} proposals are being considered.

The Council's Slum Clearance programme now includes 30 proposed new dwellings in the Teme Valley viz:- 10 at Knucklas, 10 at Lloiney, 4 at Beguildy and 6 at Folindro, and it is to be hoped that much progress will be made in the coming year to erect these houses and re-house families now living in the unfit houses.

OFFICIALS.

The Ministry of Health have requested details and qualifications of the Council's Senior Public Health Officers, which are as follows:-

Medical Officer of Health (part time) Dr. J.G. Garman, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Public Health Inspector (full time) D.I. Davies, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

All matters of Public Health are under the control of these Officers and the whole Council deal with matters of Public Health, there being no separate Public Health Committee of the Council.

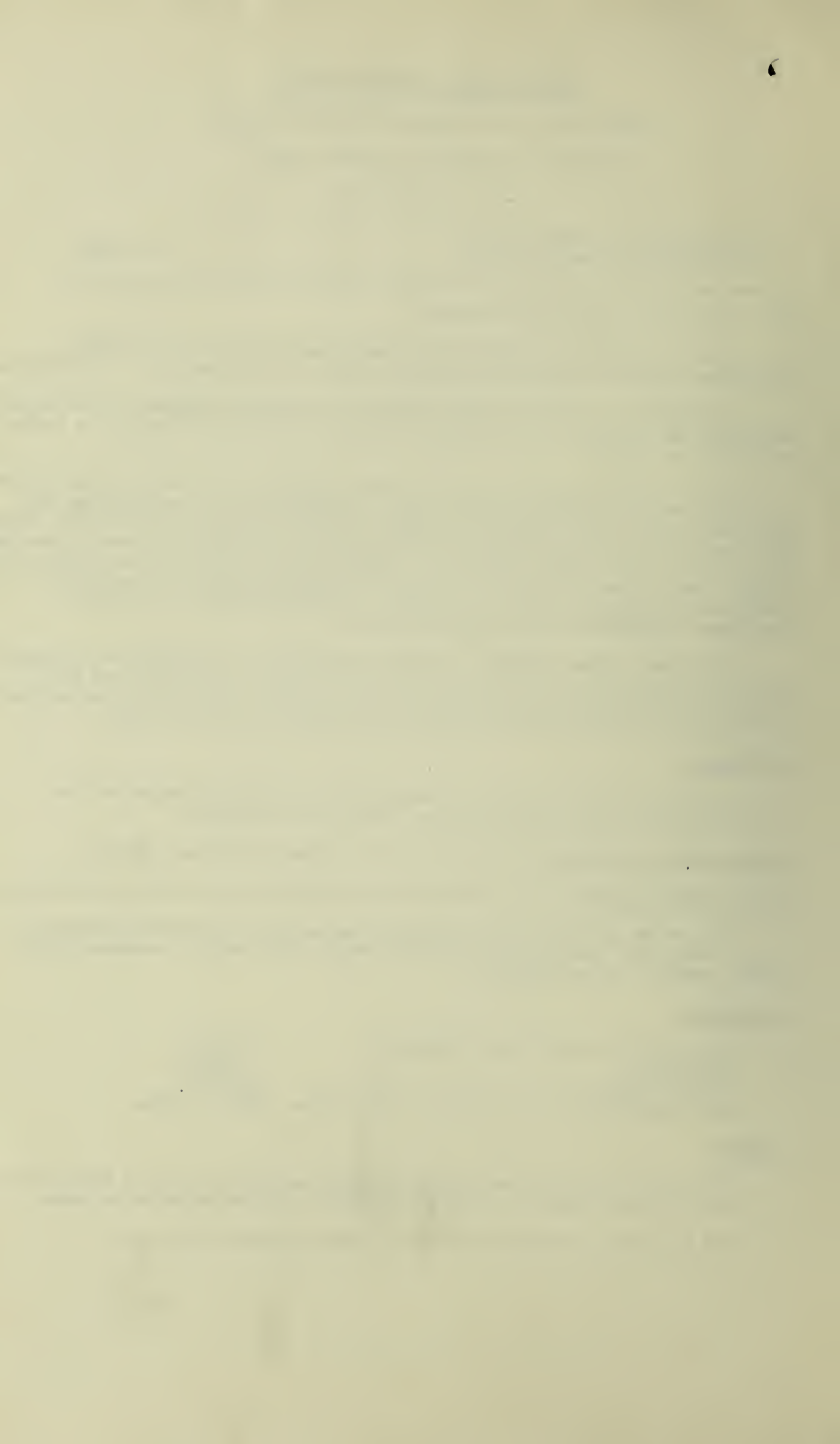
STATISTICS.

Total Area (in acres) of the District.	88,667.
Population.	3,040.
Rateable Value.	£28,466.
Sum represented by the product of a penny rate.	£112 - 7 - 5d.

BIRTHS.

There were 28 live births registered during the year, of which 7 were male, and 21 female, giving a birth rate of 9.2 per 1,000 of the population of the area.

The birth rate for 1955 was 13.6 per 1,000 population of the area.



DEATHS.

The total number of deaths of all ages registered during the year was 40, giving a death rate of 13.15 for the whole district as compared with 31 deaths in 1955 giving a rate of 10.06 per 1,000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 2 deaths of infants under 1 year of age. No deaths were recorded in 1955.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

There are Ante-Natal Infant Welfare and Tuberculosis Clinics in operation at Knighton and Llandrindod Wells. The Home Visiting of expectant mothers attending the Ante-Natal Clinic is undertaken by the Health Visitor.

Within reasonable distance Hereford, Shrewsbury, Llandrindod Wells and Newtown Hospitals are available for treatment, and Hereford and Shrewsbury have centres for the treatment of venereal diseases.

ORTHOPEADIC SCHEME.

This scheme covers all children and adults with fortnightly clinic at Llandrindod Wells.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

Resulting from the regular inspection, provision is made for treatment. An Eye clinic is installed in Knighton and Llandrindod Wells. A Mobile Dental Service is provided at each school in the area.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Listed below are all the infectious diseases that were notified during the year:-

(a) Whooping Cough.

Three cases of whooping cough were notified during the year.

(b) Dysentery.

One case, a boy 6 years of age was notified as suffering from this disease.

(c) Erysipelas.

A 12 years old boy was notified to be suffering from erysipelas.

(d) Pneumonia.

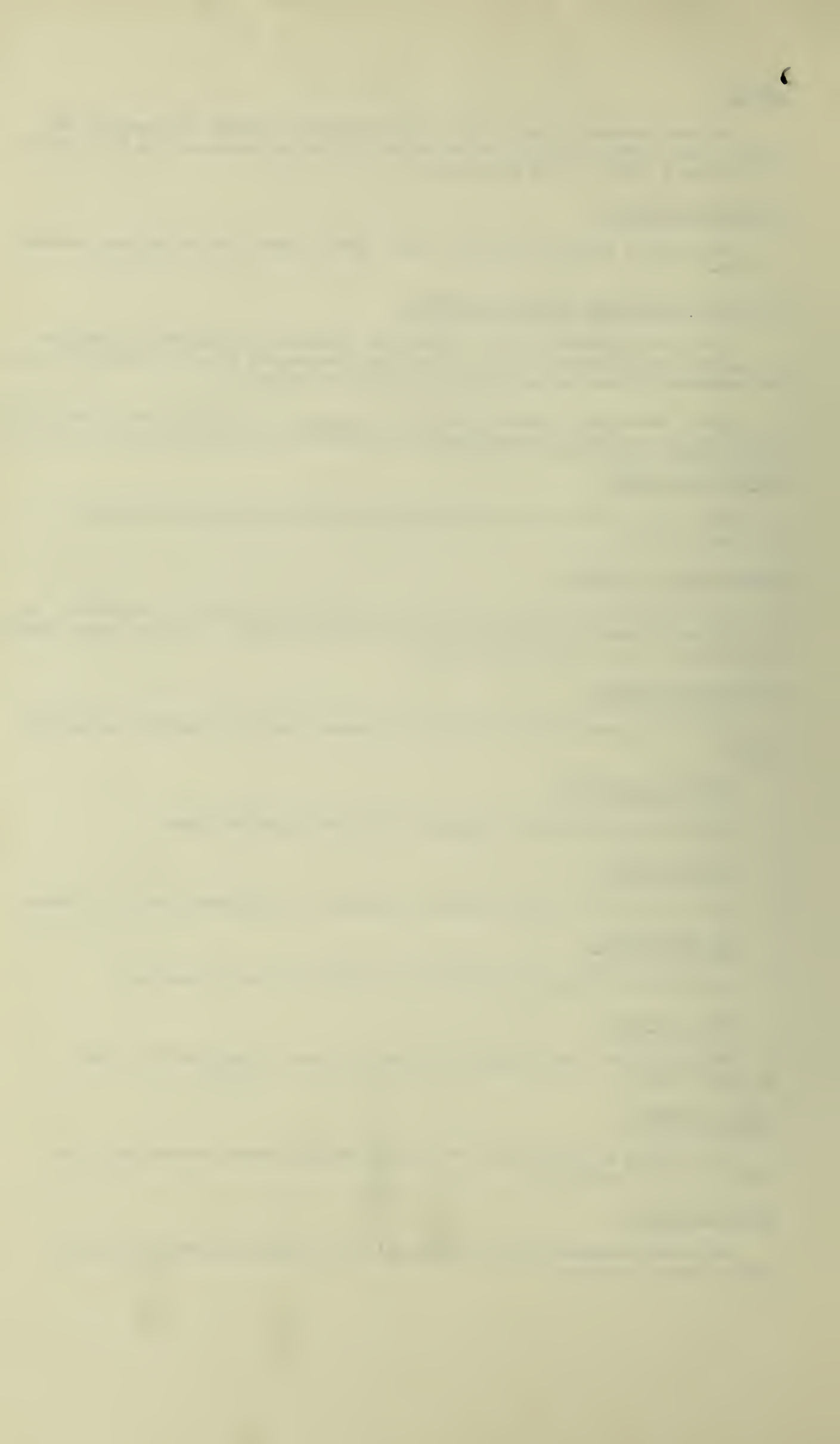
Two male cases were notified one being 23 years of age and the other 56 years of age.

SCHOOL CANTEENS.

All schools in the Rural District have canteens where mid-day meals are provided for the scholars.

FOOD INSPECTION.

All food premises within the district are periodically inspected by the Public Health Inspector.



WATER SUPPLIES.

The Llanbadarn Fynydd water supply scheme was completed during the summer and all premises within reach of the main were connected to the supply. The old supply being a well, which was continuously liable to pollution, has now been filled in and disused.

It is regretted that so little progress was achieved during the year in bringing the proposed Bleddfa and Lugg Valley Water Supply Scheme into being, especially having regard to the conditions existing at Bleddfa, Llangunllo and Norton, and the scarcity of water in these villages.

Sampling of water is undertaken regularly both from the Council's supplies and from private sources, and the analysis of such samples is carried out at the Aberystwyth General Hospital and The Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are no main dealers' premises situated within the Council's area, but three retailers from adjoining Authorities retail milk in this Rural District, all three being subject to supplementary licences for this purpose.

ICE CREAM.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the area, and only two are registered for the storage and sale of pre-packed ice cream. Periodical inspection of these premises are carried out by the Public Health Inspector, and conditions are generally satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL - Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

A systematic survey of properties is being carried out by the Council's Rodent Operator and treatment given where found necessary.

MIDWIVES ACT.

The District Nurses working in the Rural Area act as Health Visitors for the County Council.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

No new factories have been opened within the district during the year.

OUTWORKERS.

So far as is known to your Officers there are no outworkers in the Rural Area.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

CONCLUSION.

In concluding my Annual Report, I would express my thanks to the Members and Staff of the Council for their help and co-operation in my work as Medical Officer of Health.

I have the honour to remain
Your obedient Servant.

J.G. GARMAN.

Medical Officer of Health.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28849036>



